

CLAIMS:

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What is claimed is:

1. A method of updating a message from a first version to an
upgraded version by chaining through intermediate versions
comprising:

receiving an update message having a first version format;
and,

repeatedly generating a revised update message having a next
most recent version format based on the update message until a
final update message having an upgraded version format is
generated.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein generating a revised update
message having a next most recent version format includes:

receiving a first update message; and,

calling a next most recent version mapping function to map
contents of the first update message to generate a second update
message.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the update message includes a
set of records for a database in the first version.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the set of records for the
database in the first version is a complete set of records for the
database.

5. An article comprising a computer readable medium having
instructions stored thereon, which when executed, causes:

3 receipt of an update message having a first version format;
4 and,

5 repeated generation of a revised update message having a next
6 most recent version format based on the update message until a
7 final update message having an upgraded version format is
8 generated.

1 6. The article of claim 5, wherein the computer readable medium
2 further having instructions stored thereon, which when executed,
3 causes:

4 receipt of a first update message; and,
5 calling of a next most recent version mapping function to map
6 contents of the first update message to generate a second update
7 message.

8 7. The article of claim 5, wherein the update message includes a
9 set of records for a database in the first version.

10 8. The article of claim 7, wherein the set of records for the
11 database in the first version is a complete set of records for the
12 database.

13 9. An apparatus for updating a message from a first version to
14 an upgraded version by chaining through intermediate versions
15 comprising:

16 means for receiving an update message having a first version
17 format; and,

18 means for repeatedly generating a revised update message
19 having a next most recent version format based on the update

8 message until a final update message having an upgraded version
9 format is generated.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising:
2 means for receiving a first update message; and,
3 means for calling a next most recent version mapping function
4 to map contents of the first update message to generate a second
5 update message.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the update message includes
2 a set of records for a database in the first version.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the set of records for the
2 database in the first version is a complete set of records for the
3 database.

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